

## Dean Kranhold, 69

Dean Kranhold, 69, Mount Juliet, Tenn., died Thursday, Oct. 8, 2009.

Dean Kranhold was born the first of two children on May 1, 1940 to Dean K. and Beverlee H. (Wattier) Kranhold, Sacramento, Calif. He was an avid lifelong musician, and loved to tell the story of how he began his musical career in San Francisco toward the end of World War II. He and his baby-sitter would stand on street corners as he sang Christmas carols to returning servicemen. Dean recalled that the baby-sitter would collect donations, but



that he never received any of the money. In his "tongue-in-cheek" fashion, he observed that this was not the first time that an agent had withheld income from a client!

He attended high school in Groton, SD, graduating in 1958. While in high school, he found an 1885 Conn cornet, that had belonged to his grandfather. His parents recognized Dean's musical fervor and rewarded him with a new cornet. He loved to practice and his hard work paid off with a perfect score on his All State Band audition his senior year, resulting in a first chair and solo cornet position in that elite group of high school musicians.

He attended college at the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, graduating cum laude with a degree in music education. While at the university, Dean started a "big band" because of his love for the music of Stan Kenton, Woody Herman, Duke Ellington and Count Basie.

During the summer of his junior year at USD, he was selected as first chair trumpet in the National Collegiate All-Star band in Wichita, Kan. He took his first music teaching position in Clark, SD, in 1962, and worked there for nine years as band director in the local school system. During those nine years, he played in 11 different dance bands. In 1966, he received his masters in music degree from the University of South Dakota.

Dean married Valerie K. Thorson in 1969. He accepted a job in 1971 with the Aberdeen Public Schools, as band director at Holgate Junior High and remained there for eight years. In 1976, he received a masters in school administration degree from Northern State University. In 1979, he moved into the director of bands position at Aberdeen Central High School, and remained there for five years.

Dean was named the South Dakota Outstanding Bandmaster in 1983. He assumed the position of assistant principal at Central High School in 1984, a role he held until his retirement in 2005. He was elected to the South Dakota High School Activities Board of Directors in 2002 and served until 2005. He was elected to the South Dakota Musician's Hall of Fame in 2003, and he received the distinguished administrator award from the South Dakota Music Educator's Association in 2004.

He received the Distinguished Service award from the SDHSAA in 2005. After moving to the Nashville area, Dean played trumpet in several musical organizations, in and around Nashville. He was a member of St. Stephen's Catholic Community, the Elks and Rotary Club. He was an avid golfer, a prolific reader, and he greatly enjoyed attending concerts. Dean had a zest for life and possessed a great wit that will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him.

He was truly dedicated to his friends and family. He was at his happiest when surrounded by the people he loved, often regaling them with whimsical stories. His mind and wonderful sense of humor remained with him until his last breath.

Dean was preceded in death by his parents and grandparents.

He is survived by his wife, Valerie; his children, Lara (Steve) Murdzia, Jason (Angela) Kranhold and Taryn (David) Brainard; his sister, Diane (Roger) Sparby; and three grandchildren, Ryan, Ashley and Benjamin.

Visitation and a vigil service will be 6-8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 15 at St. Stephen's Catholic Church in Old Hickory, Tenn., and a funeral Mass will be 10:30 a.m., Friday, Oct. 16 at St. Stephen's. A memorial service is being planned in Aberdeen, SD, for a later date.

